

(14)(CANCEL)

Please cancel claim 14 without prejudice.

(15)(TWICE AMENDED)
"binder" and after "a".

In claim 15, line 7, please insert --water-soluble-- before

(16)(NEW)
povidone.

A method of claim 15, wherein the water-soluble binder is

(17)(NEW)

A method of claim 15, wherein the lubricant is stearic acid.

(18)(NEW)
povidone and the lubricant is stearic acid.

A method of claim 15, wherein the water-soluble binder is

Remarks

Claims 1-9 and 15-18 are now pending in the present application for U.S. patent. Claims 13 and 14 have been canceled without prejudice and new dependent claims 16 - 18 have been added herein. Claims 1 and 15 constitute the only independent claims now pending in this application for U.S. patent. No new matter has been introduced via this Amendment.

Applicant has amended claim 15 to more clearly define what the applicant considers to be an embodiment of the invention. Support for --water-soluble-- in amended claim 15 and in new claims 16-18, and the language --povidone-- in claims 16 and 18 and --stearic acid-- in claims 17 and 18, can be found at least on page 5, in paragraphs 3-5, and on page 6, at lines 9-10, of the specification.

While the term --water-soluble-- does not appear per se in the specification of the above-identified application for U.S. patent, it is respectfully pointed out that povidone is a water soluble binder. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the specification of the above-referenced application for U.S. patent does provide ample support for the term --water-soluble--, as used in claims 15-18.

In the Office Action mailed on June 10, 1996, the Examiner advised that the finality of the Office action dated November 27, 1996 is withdrawn, and that the Applicant has overcome the 102(e) rejection over O'Neill U.S. Patent No. 5,268,181.

In an Amendment and Response under 37 CFR section 1.111, which was dated August 5, 1996, Applicant added new independent claim 15. In a Supplemental Amendment and Response under 37 CFR section 1.111, which was dated August 27, 1996, Applicant amended independent claim 1 for the third time and independent claim 15 for the first time.